

POETRY.

STANZAS.

BY WILLIAM LEGGETT.

If you bright stars, which gleam in the night,
Be seen in the old world of light,
Where kindred spirits reunite,
When death hath torn asunder here:
How sweet it were, at once to die,
And leave this blighted old air,
Mix soul and soul to cleave the sky,
And soar away from star to star.

But oh, how dark, how drear and lone,
Would seem the brightest world of bliss,
If wandering through each radiant one,
We fail to find the loved of bliss.
If there be no more the loved of bliss,
That death's cold hand alone could sever,
Alas! how dark, how drear and lone,
More hateful as they shine forever.

It cannot be each hope, each fear,
That light the eye of clouds the brow,
Precious there is a happier sphere,
Than this bleak world that holds us now.
There is a voice which sorrow hears,
When heaviness weighs on the soul's chains,
The heaven that whispers, "Thy tears,
The pure in heaven, shall meet again."

BIRD.

Our sweetest and truest friends are these:
Thou by the weary frame so sorely pressed,
Which, grateful, blesses its most dreary guest,
While eases the pale sufferer's sad unrest.
Thou here the blessing in thy voice dost send,
Thou here the mother's heart dost soothe her child:
Thou here the good man, pointing on his life,
Beholds that which which thy song doth signify.
Made by the sear, the frost, the storm, the cold,
Where, in long slumber, it shall roamless lie:
And he exults, feeling in that sweetest tone,
His robe alone will be the gift with God.

ANTHONY BUCKNER.

MISCELLANY.

THE MAGNIFICENT VISITOR.

BY HENRY W. B. LEE.

It was at the close of a beautiful day, and the shades of evening were beginning to gather over the city of Florence, when a quick rap was heard at the door of Cornelius Agrippa, and shortly afterwards a stranger was introduced into the apartment in which the philosopher was sitting at his studies.

The stranger, although fine formed, and of courteous demeanor, had a certain air of indefinable mystery about him, which excited awe, if indeed it had not a repellent effect. His years it was difficult to guess, for the marks of youth and age were blended in his features in a most extraordinary manner. There was no furrow on his cheek, or a wrinkle on his brow, and his large black eye beamed with all the brilliancy and vivacity of youth; but his sturdy figure was bent, apparently beneath the weight of years; his hair, although thick and clustering, was gray; and his voice was feeble and tremulous, yet its tones were of the most ravishing and soul-searching melody. His costume was that of a Florentine gentleman; but he held a staff like that of a pauper in his hand, and a silk sash, inscribed with oriental characters, was bound around his waist. His face was deadly pale, but every feature of it was singularly beautiful, and his expression was that of profound wisdom, mingled with poignant sorrow.

"Pardon me, learned sir," said he, addressing the philosopher, "but your fame has travelled into all lands, and has reached old ears, and I could not leave the fair city of Florence, without seeking an interview with one who is its greatest boast and ornament."

"You are right welcome, sir," returned Agrippa; "but I fear that your trouble and curiosity will be ill repaid. I am simply one, who, instead of devoting my days, as do the wise, to the acquirement of wealth and honor, have passed long years in painful and unprofitable study, in endeavoring to unravel the secrets of nature, and initiate myself in the mysteries of the occult sciences."

"Tallest thou of long years?" echoed the stranger, and a melancholy smile played over his features—"thou who hast scarcely seen forty years since thou left thy cradle, and for whom the quiet grave is now waiting, eager to clasp thee in her sheltering arms! I was among the tombs to-day—the still and solemn tombs; I saw them smiling, in the last beams of the setting sun. When I was a boy, I used to wish to be like the sun; his career was so long, so bright, so glorious. But to-day, I thought it better to sleep among those tombs than to be like him. To-night he sank behind the hills, apparently to repose, but to-morrow he must renew his course, and run the same dull and unvaried but toilsome and unquiet race. There is no grave for him, and night and morning dews are on his cheeks over his tyrannous destiny."

Agrippa was a deep observer and admirer of external nature and of all her phenomena, and had often gazed upon the scene which the stranger had described; but the fancies and ideas which it awakened in the mind of the latter were so different from any thing that he himself had experienced, that he could not help, for a season, gazing upon him in speechless wonder. His guest, however, speedily resumed his discourse.

"But I trouble you, I trouble you:—to my purpose in making you this visit. I have heard strange tales of a wonderful mirror, which your potent art has enabled you to construct, in which whoever looks may see the living and the dead, on whom he is gazing, and to fix his gaze. My eyes are weary of this single world which can be pleasing to their sight. The grave has closed over all I loved. The grave has carried down its stream every one that contributed to my enjoyment. The world is a vale of tears, but among all the tears which water that valley, not one is shed for me—the last, alas! my own heart is dried up. I would once again look upon the face which I loved. I would see that eye more bright, that step more surely than the antelope's; that brow, the broad smooth page on which God has inscribed his fair characters. I would gaze on all I loved and all I lost. Such a gaze would be dearer to my heart than all that the world has to offer me—except the grave, except the grave."

The passionate pleading of the stranger had such an effect upon Agrippa, (who was not used to exhibit his miracle of art in the eyes of all who desired to look in it, although he was often tempted by exorbitant prices, and high honors to do so,) that he readily consented to grant the request of his extraordinary visitor.

"Who wouldst thou see?" he inquired.

"My child, my own sweet Miriam," answered the stranger.

Cornelius immediately came, every ray of the light of heaven to be excluded from the chamber, placed the stranger on the right hand, and commenced chanting in a low soft tone, and in a strange language, some lyrical verses, to which the stranger thought he heard occasionally a response, but

it was a sound so faint and indistinct that he hardly knew whether it existed any where but in his own fancy. As Cornelius continued his chant, the room gradually became illuminated, but whence the light proceeded it was impossible to discover. Although the stranger perceived a large mirror which covered the whole of the extreme end of the apartment, and over the surface of which a dense haze or cloud seemed to be rapidly passing.

"Died she in wedlock's holy bands?" inquired Cornelius.

"She was a virgin, spotless as the snow."

"How many years have passed away since the grave closed over her?"

A cloud gathered on the stranger's brow, and he answered somewhat impatiently, "Many, many more than I now have time to number."

"Nay," said Agrippa, "but I must know. For every ten years that have elapsed since her death, once must I wave this wand, and when I have waved it for the last time, you will see her figure in the mirror."

"Wave on then," said the stranger, and groaned bitterly; "wave on, and take heed that thou be not weary."

Cornelius Agrippa gazed on the stranger guest with something of anger, but he excused his want of courtesy on the ground of the probable extent of his calamities. He then waved his magic wand many times, but to his consternation, it seemed to have lost its virtue. Turning to the stranger, he exclaimed:

"What, and what art thou, man? Thy presence troubles me. According to all the rules of my art, this wand has already described twice two hundred years—still has the surface of the mirror experienced no alteration. Say, dost thou mock me, and did no such person ever exist as thou hast described to me?"

"Wave on, wave on," was the stern and only reply which this interrogatory extracted from the stranger.

The curiosity of Agrippa, although he himself was a dealer in wonders, began now to be excited, and a mysterious feeling of awe forbade him to desert from waving his wand, much as he doubted the sincerity of his visitor. As his arm grew shaky, he heard the deep-sounding tones of the stranger exclaiming, "Wave on, wave on!" and at length, after his wand, according to the calculations of his art, had described a period of twelve hundred years, the cloud cleared away from the surface of the mirror, and the stranger, with an exclamation of delight, arose, and gazed rapturously upon the scene which was there represented.

An exquisitely rich and romantic prospect was before him. In the distance rose lofty mountains crowded with castles; a rapid stream rolled in the middle, and in the foreground were seen camels grazing, will-trickling by, in which some sheep were quenching their thirst; and a lofty palm tree, beneath whose shade a young female of exquisite beauty, and richly habited in the costume of the east, was sheltering herself from the noontide sun.

"Thou shiel'st her!" shouted the stranger; and he was rushing towards the mirror, but was prevented by Cornelius, who said:

"Forbear, rash man, to quit this spot! With every step that thou advancest towards the mirror, the image will become fainter, and shouldst thou approach too near, it will vanish away entirely."

Thus warned he resumed his station, but his agitation was so excessive, that he was obliged to lean on the arm of the philosopher for support, whilst, from time to time, he uttered incoherent expressions of wonder, delight and lamentation—

"Thou shiel'st her! even as she looked while living! How beautiful she is! Miriam, my child, cannot thou speak to me? By heaven, she moves, she smiles! Oh, speak to me a single word, or only breathe on my cheek! Alas! all's silent—dull and desolate as this heart! Again that smile—that smile, the remembrance of which a thousand winters have not been able to freeze up in my heart! Old man, it is in vain to hold me! I must, I will clasp her!"

As he uttered the last words, he rushed frantically towards the mirror—the scene represented within it faded away—the cloud gathered again over its surface, and the stranger sunk senseless on the floor.

When he recovered his consciousness, he found himself in the arms of Agrippa, who was chafing his temples and gazing on him with looks of wonder and fear. He immediately arose on his feet, with restored strength, and pressing the hand of his host he said:

"Thanks, thanks, for thy courtesy and thy kindness, and for the sweet but painful sight which thou hast presented to my eyes." As he spoke these words he put a purse into the hands of Cornelius, but the latter returned it, saying:

"Nay, my keep thy gold, friend. I know not, indeed, that a Christian can dare take it; but be that as it may, I should deem myself sufficiently repaid if thou wilt tell me who thou art."

"I should," said the stranger, pointing to a large historical picture which hung on the left hand of the room.

"I see," said the philosopher, "an exquisite work of art, the production of one of our best and earliest artists, representing our Saviour carrying his cross."

"But look again," said the stranger, fixing his keen dark eyes intently on him, and pointing to a figure on the left hand of the picture.

Cornelius gazed, and saw with wonder what he had not observed before—the extraordinary resemblance which this figure bore to the stranger, of whom it might be said to be a portrait.

"That," said Cornelius with an emotion of horror, "is intended to represent the unhappy infidel who smote the Divine Sufferer for not walking faster, and was therefore condemned to walk the earth himself until the period of that Sufferer's second coming."

"Thou art," exclaimed the stranger; and rushing out of the house quickly disappeared.

Then did Cornelius Agrippa know that he had been conversing with the wandering Jew.

PHILOSOPHY.

The human ear is so extremely sensible that it can hear a sound that is only the twenty-fourth thousandth part of a second.

Deaf persons may converse together through rods of wood held between their teeth, or held to their throat or breast.

A water sound passes 4,708 feet per second, in air from 1,430 to 1,140.

In the Arctic regions persons can converse at a more than a mile distant, when the thermometer is below zero.

A drop of water can be divided in 26,000,000 distinct parts.

New Business. There is said to be a woman in Centre street, New York, who takes in children to wash. She gives them a good scrubbing with soap and water, and then sets them in the sun to dry; she washes at four shillings per dozen.

CASE OF THE CAPTURED SLAVE SHIPS.

The capture of these vessels by British cruisers, involves a question of great National delicacy and importance, and which has been the subject of negotiation between our Government and that of Great Britain—we refer to the proposed mutual right of search on the African coast, for the suppression of this traffic. The Directors of the Colonization Society feel the great desire to see this unnatural trade abolished, and they believe the object may be achieved without compromising any important principle of National honor or welfare.

In the correspondence on this subject between Mr. Adams and Mr. C. King, Mr. A., in his letter of the 24th of June, 1823, expressed his willingness to concede the right exercised by the British cruisers in their late captures, provided the capture and detention should be on the responsibility of the captors, and on the condition that the captured party should be delivered over for trial to the tribunals of his own country. But, as no convention has been entered into between the two Governments, the Directors of the Colonization Society, as citizens of the United States, cannot adopt any measures, in anticipation of the action of our Government.

The following extracts from a communication of Governor Buchanan, shows that the American flag is in common use by slave ships on the coast of Africa. It is, however, gratifying to learn, that an American armed vessel is soon to be despatched to that coast, by the Navy Department, to protect our flag from such desecration.

"The chief obstacle to the success of the very active measures pursued by the British Government for the suppression of the slave trade on the coast, is the AMERICAN FLAG. Never was that proud banner of freedom so extensively used by those pirates upon liberty and humanity as this season. Probably three-fourths of the vessels boarded and found to be undoubtably slave, are protected by American papers and the American flag, and consequently go free. In nearly every case, these vessels are built in the United States—not unfrequently they are owned by merchants in New York and Baltimore. Many of the papers are made out at Havana, and signed by the American Consul—Triste—who should be held responsible. I have seen and conversed with several British Naval officers since my arrival, and they all tell the same story, and declare they could seize an American slave vessel every day, if they had authority. Out of a multitude of cases, I will mention the following well authenticated:

"The Vexat, of Baltimore, Wm. Phillips, master and owner—(his own representation)—American colors and American papers; boarded by the Dolphin B. brig of war; three days after, left the coast with 830 slaves!

"The Mary Ann Cassard, taken and sent into Sierra Leone by Lt. Kill of H. B. M. brig Brisk; was cleared on account of her American papers and killed a merced in heavy damages; a fortnight after, she was taken by the same officer, with upwards of 200 slaves on board!

"The Ephraim, boarded by Lt. Seagram; American colors and papers; completely fitted up for slaves.

"The Eagle, of Baltimore; American colors and papers; seized with a cargo of slaves of board.

"I omit to mention here a number of American vessels, whose names I have, and shall forward to the Secretary of the Navy—which are known to be slavers, but on board of which slaves have not been actually found or known to be."

DESPATCHES FROM LIBERIA.

We now submit to the Public a communication from Governor Buchanan, relating to matters of the deepest interest to the Colony, and the great cause of humanity. Governor Buchanan has shown a degree of independence, energy and valor seldom surpassed. We are gratified to know that his health (which was seriously affected soon after his arrival in Liberia) is much improved, and that his administration of affairs has been very successful. His bold and decisive measures against the slave trade, must have a powerful effect in banishing its atrocities from the Liberian coast. It is high time that the authorities of this nation, whose flag of Liberty is desecrated, and spread forth before the face of the world and Heaven, to protect this outrageous commerce, should adopt prompt and strong measures to rescue it from its reproach. The People, we believe, will demand action on this subject. Governor Buchanan's statements and appeals must arouse all good men from their insensibility to the extent and horrors of this traffic.

The enemies of Colonization have frequently thrown out the idea that the Colonists were lending their countenance to the slave trade; or at least, that they were exposed to temptations to favor this trade, which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to resist. It is undoubtedly true, that so universal is the slave trade among the native tribes on the African coast, that an individual there, would he avoid all intercourse with those engaged in it, must needs go out of Africa. That the Liberian Colony has, from its origin, exerted a very decided influence against this traffic, is undeniable. This influence, under Ashmun, was great. It has been exerted in repeated instances, since with effect. The movements of Governor Buchanan, and the zeal with which they were sustained at great hazard by the citizens of the Colony, rebukes the spirit of detraction which would leave no virtue or merit in the character of the Liberian Colonists.

In evidence of the spirit with which the Executive Committee have recently proceeded against the slave trade, we copy the following resolution, transmitted by the last conveyance to the Colony.

"Resolved, That the Governor and Council be requested to pass such laws as will most effectually prevent any communication between the citizens of Liberia and the slave traders; and that as the latter are regarded and declared by the laws of civilized nations to be pirates and outlaws, any citizen of Liberia holding communication with, or furnishing aid to, any slave trader, should be dealt with and punished in the same manner as are citizens or subjects of any civilized State, who are guilty of dealing with or supporting an enemy in time of war. And that any Colonist who shall attach himself to any slave dealer or slave factory on the coast of Western Africa, or having attached himself to such slave factory, and being notified by the Governor of Liberia or other proper officer to withdraw shall be guilty of aiding in making irons, or otherwise of directly or indirectly aiding or abetting in the slave trade, shall be declared guilty of felony, and suffer the punishment of death."

In communicating this resolution, the General Agent of the Society expressed the views of the Committee in the following language:

"The strongest hold which Colonization has had on its patrons for years, has been the belief that it was the only effectual remedy for the slave trade; and it was natural to believe that those who had returned to the land of their fathers, and found in Liberia an asylum from the oppression of slavery, would wage unceasing war against this system of cruelty, so long practiced upon their brethren.

"For ages, adverse opinions have been entertained with regard to the moral and intellectual capabilities of the colored race. Colonizationists believe them capable (under equally favorable circumstances) of the same degree of elevation attained by the white man; and in establishing the Colonies of Liberia, are endeavoring to carry out their views and furnish to the world practical evidence of their correctness. The civilized world is regarding this experiment with intense interest. It must be carried on. The cupidity and baseness of a few individuals must not be allowed to defeat it, however severe and summary the laws necessary to restrain them; or however painful their execution."

"We trust that the Legislative Council will not hesitate to pass the necessary laws, and provide for their most vigorous execution, inflicting condign punishment on every offender."

Copy of Commission and Instructions to William N. Lewis, as Marshall in the Expedition to Little Bassa.

COMMONWEALTH OF LIBERIA:

To all whom it may concern:

Know ye, that in virtue of the authority vested in me by the American Colonization Society, as Governor of this Commonwealth, I have deputed William N. Lewis, and by these presents do depute and constitute him a Marshall of this Commonwealth, with special authority to proceed forthwith to Little Bassa, there to seize the person of one Tarriss, and other white men connected with him, at a certain slave factory, and expell them from this territory; also, to seize all the property of every description belonging to said slave dealers, and either convey it to this place, or destroy it on the spot; also, in like manner to seize the goods and property of every kind whatsoever which may be found in the trading factory of one Murray or Lany (Englishmen) and convey it to this place or destroy it as aforesaid, and to destroy with the factories aforesaid all the buildings belonging to them.

And for the proper execution of this precept, the said William N. Lewis is hereby empowered to call on the military force of the colony, and other citizens; and the officers and men of any military company, and all good citizens are hereby commanded to aid him in the discharge of these duties. Given at the Government house, Monrovia, this twenty-second day of July, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-nine.

WILLIAM N. LEWIS, Esq., MARSHALL, &c.

When you arrive at Little Bassa and have taken possession of the slave factory (which will be the first object of seizure) you will at once secure the Frenchman and his family, by placing a proper guard over them. You will proceed there with such assistants as you may select to release the slaves and take them under your protection, when, if the schooners shall have arrived, you will, without loss of time, convey all the moveable property on board, except the rum, which in any event must be destroyed on the spot. As far as possible you will have an inventory of the cases, casks, &c., seized, and the greatest caution must be used to prevent any person unauthorized even touching an article.

Should the schooners not have arrived when you take possession, you will ascertain if there are any means of subsistence for the expedition, and in the exercise of a sound discretion decide whether it may be practicable to remain until the arrival of the schooners. If you deem it advisable not to wait, you will, with all expedition, proceed to destroy all the property in the most effectual and summary manner, leaving only what small articles of personal necessity the Frenchmen may be able to take with them.

You will also seize all the property of the Englishman, and in like manner bring it here or destroy it. The slaves you will bring here with you, and all the white men may be either driven down or up the coast, so that they are got rid of, but any thing like insults or injury you will take care to prevent being inflicted by any of your assistants. Hereof fail not.

Yours, &c.

To ELIJAH JOHNSON, Captain Commanding the Volunteer Expedition to Little Bassa:

SIR: You are hereby authorized and commanded to take charge of the expedition of volunteers about to proceed to Little Bassa. You will spare no pains to establish strict military discipline among the officers of your command. On your arrival, you will assist the marshal, William N. Lewis, who accompanies you, with your whole force, in securing and removing or destroying (as he may direct) all the property to be found which he may seize.

Having taken possession of the place, you will detail a sufficient number of men to aid the marshal in disposing of the property, taking care however, not to weaken too much the body stationed on the outside as guards, sentinels, &c.

You will at no time, nor on any pretence, relax for a moment the strictness of discipline nor the authority of martial law; and by no means suffer any communication between the natives and your men—the natives and the slavers; or between the slavers and your men—you will command the colonists living at Bassa to join your standard, which, if they refuse to do, you will arrest and bring to this place for trial.

In the discharge of any of the duties enjoined upon you here, or required of you by the marshal, you will be careful to avoid any violence to the persons or feelings of those against whom you are required to act, unless resistance is offered, which of course you must overcome by force.

Should any one under your command so far forget the character of a soldier, and be so regardless of the honor of his country, as to attempt to leave his post without orders, to plunder, or in any way show disrespect or disobedience to superior officers, you will not hesitate to arrest or punish him on the spot, according to martial law. But I am not willing to anticipate the smallest difficulty from such a base spirit. Those who have so generously volunteered in the service of their country will do their duty like men, and do honor by their acts, as they have already in pledge, to the name they bear as citizens—soldiers of Liberia.

Circumstances which it is impossible to foresee must determine the course of procedure with regard to the property seized, and the length of your stay at Little Bassa. I have communicated my wishes and orders to the marshal on this subject, with whom you will consult and act as may appear advisable.

Given this Twenty-second day of July, at Monrovia, in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-nine.

The above documents accompanied Mr. Buchanan's letter, which was published in our two preceding papers.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

There is one point of view in which the influence of the American Colonization Society, upon the suppression of the slave trade has been overlooked, or at least not duly appreciated. We refer to its influence upon our national legislation, and to its co-operation with national government, under laws of which it was instrumental in securing the passage.

The law of the United States, passed in 1807, for the suppression of the slave trade, made no provision for the disposition of the slaves introduced into this country contrary to its provisions, but left them to be disposed of by the legislatures of the states into which they might be brought. The state of Virginia had previously passed a law for the suppression of the slave trade, and declared slaves introduced into that state contrary to its provisions, free. The states of Georgia and Louisiana passed laws directing negroes imported into those states in contravention of the slave trade act to be sold as slaves, and the proceeds to be paid into the state Treasury, and the sale of a considerable number of Africans took place under those laws.

The state of Georgia, however, passed a law recognizing the existence of the American Colonization Society, and offering to deliver into their hands such Africans as might be introduced into that state in contravention of the laws against the slave trade, provided the Society would restore them to their native land without expense to the state. And in 1818 Bishop Meade of Virginia, who was the first agent of the American Colonization Society, proceeded to the state of Georgia, and received from the proper officers of the state a number of recaptured Africans, who had been advertised to be sold on a certain day, under the provisions of the above named law. When Congress convened in 1818 a memorial was presented from the board of managers of the Colonization Society, setting forth the facts above stated, and praying for such legal enactment upon the subject as might secure to the Africans illegally introduced into the United States the enjoyment of their freedom and their rights.

In conformity with the request of the Colonization Society an act was passed at the same session, to wit on the 3d of March 1819, entitled "an act in addition to the acts prohibiting the slave trade" declaring Africans introduced into any part of the United States contrary to said acts, to be at the disposal of the President of the United States, under the guardianship of our laws, and providing for their restoration to their native land; and, where practicable to their homes. Also providing for the appointment of agents on the coast of Africa, to receive and protect them on their arrival there, and to place them in a situation to obtain a comfortable subsistence for themselves.

Mr. Monroe, who was then President, in carrying into effect the above named law, wisely sought to secure the co-operation of the Colonization Society in the restoration of the recaptured Africans to their homes, and to secure the protection and other advantages that would accrue to the agents of the government, from a residence in the colony which the Colonization Society contemplated founding on the coast of Africa. The society, perceiving that a co-operation with the government in their benevolent intentions toward the recaptured Africans would be mutually advantageous to the society and the government, readily consented to the proposition of President Monroe to make the colony of Liberia the place of residence of the government agents, and the place for the reception and location of such recaptured Africans as could not be sent to their homes.

The first Africans who were sent out under this arrangement to Liberia were from the state of Georgia, and the place where they were settled is called New Georgia. It is now the most thriving agricultural settlement in Liberia. Others were sent out by the United States at different times from Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana, amounting in the whole to several hundreds. The last considerable number that were sent to Liberia by the United States, under the above named arrangement, were sent from New Orleans in 1835. They are here brought into notice because of an important principle of law involved in their capture and restoration to liberty and to their homes—for most of them were of mature age—had families in Africa, and upon their arrival at Monrovia, some of them found their friends and kindred there, and proceeded with them to their proper homes. The Spanish schooner Fenix, in which they were imported from Africa, was taken by a United States vessel of war, off the coast of Cuba, on the charge of piracy, and carried into New Orleans for adjudication.

Upon their arrival at New Orleans the Africans were demanded by the Spanish claimants as their property, on the ground that they were improperly brought into the United States. But the Court decided that the Africans should be protected in their rights by the laws of this country, no matter how they came within its jurisdiction; and that inasmuch as the slave trade was contrary to the laws of Spain, the Spanish claimants had no property in them, and they were therefore under the guardianship of the United States, to be restored to Africa under the supplementary law of 1819, for the suppression of the slave trade.